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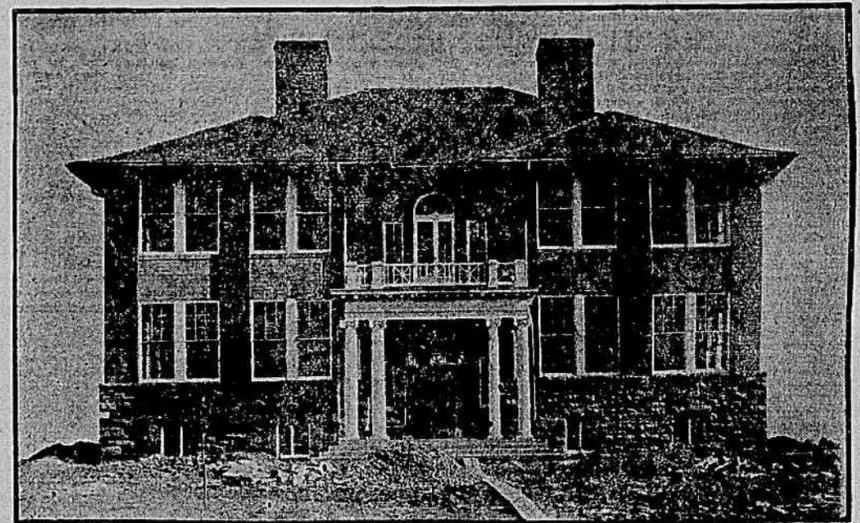
SEVENTH DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL AT MIDDLETOWN



CLASS OF DOMESTIC SCIENCE, SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLETOWN, VA.



AUDITORIUM, SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLETOWN, VA.



SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLETOWN, VA.

The county school? One pictures it in one's mind as a low wooden building, with a door opening upon the ground, with narrow-paned windows that are particularly given to rattling when the wind blows and are by no means proof against the creeping, insidious cold of winter. There is the inevitable woodpile, at which the "big" boys take turns at wielding the axe, some with an air of sullen protest, others regarding it as a pleasant respite from the tedium of the schoolroom. The schoolroom is heated by a stove that usually presents a rusty and decrepit appearance, and, despite the frequent replenishing, it

requires, is very often insufficient for comfort in severe weather. The accessories of the schoolroom are of the crudest description, the sanitary conditions far from healthful. The county school, as a type, is picturesque in illustration and story; it serves its purpose according to its limitations; but there can be no question as to the desirability of modern improvements, as applied to education. This is such a self-evident fact that to enlarge upon it is not alone superfluous, but almost an affront to an intelligent public.

An Up to Date School. The Seventh Congressional District Agricultural High School at Middletown, Va., erected at a cost of \$15,000, subscribed by the people of the community, affords a splendid example of an up to date school building, equipped with all modern improvements. The school is situated on the turnpike a short distance from Middletown, and occupies what is probably one of the finest sites in the Shenandoah Valley. It stands upon a slight elevation, and can be seen from all points, at the same time commanding a view for miles of the most exquisite scenery. This picturesque view of scenery and surroundings should prove an inspiration. It is a well known fact that some of the greatest brain work ever given to the world was accomplished with the beauty of nature as environment. From every window in the new school building, there is a feast for the eye that should awaken in the most torpid brains a desire for the better, nobler things that knowledge brings. Besides the commodious class rooms furnished with every convenience, the building contains an auditorium that will seat comfortably 300 persons, and rooms especially designed for manual training and domestic science. The entire building is heated and ventilated by the hot-air system, and the sanitary conditions are unexcelled. There are persons no doubt who do not fully appreciate the necessity for the proper sanitary conditions, not being of the child, but the mental as well. The brain of a healthy child is more active, more alert; he thinks more rapidly, his receptive faculties are keener. Nine cases out of ten the healthy child is the bright child.

Principal and Teachers, Professor John R. Hutcheson, graduate of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, is principal of the school at Middletown. Professor Hutcheson seems to be in thorough touch with his work, and to have the best interests of the school very much at heart. He possesses the rather rare faculty of making things go well and smoothly, without any very great apparent effort. He is tactful, prompt to act and conveys the impression of being able to cope with emergencies. The high school teachers are Miss Nellie Graham, graduate of the Westmoreland High School, Salisbury, Md., and of the normal department of Washington College; Miss Myra Miles, of Potomac College, W. Va., who teaches Latin and mathematics; Miss Belle Larick is teacher of the sixth and seventh grades; Miss Lucille Faulkner, fourth and fifth grades; Miss Viola Dinges, second and third grades; Miss Alice Rink, first grade or primary. Misses Larick, Dinges and Rinker have been identified with the school for some years, and have been untiring in their efforts for its success. Miss Lucille Faulkner, who was a pupil at Fort Loudoun Seminary, Winchester, Va., has shown great adaptability as a teacher, and is doing good work. If a department of music is introduced at the school Miss Faulkner will be the teacher. She was a pupil at the Baltimore Peabody Conservatory of Music and is a talented musician. The object of the school is to educate the country boy and girl particularly for the life they are to lead. The boy is afforded a course in agriculture and manual training, in conjunction with his academic work. There are twelve acres of land attached to the school, on which the most improved methods in farming will be demonstrated. The advantage of a school where a boy receives a good, thorough education and is at the same time taught farming, speaks for itself. The farmer holds a very well defined position in the world of today, and he cannot afford to be illiterate if he would cope successfully with existing conditions. There are great possibilities in the educating of the coming farmer; it opens up a new era and a new life goes away with the old conditions.

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La Grecque Belt Corsets cure too prominent abdomen and hips. They have a belted abdomen that will not stretch. Boned with aluminoid that will not break. Economical, as they will outwear three ordinary corsets and maintain their shape to the end.

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TEACHERS TO MEET IN WILLIAMSBURG

Third Congressional Convention Will Be Held March 25 and 26.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Williamsburg, Va., March 12.—The Third Congressional District Convention of the Virginia State Teachers' Association will be held in this city on Friday and Saturday, March 25 and 26, and an interesting and attractive program has been arranged by the committee in charge. At least eighty teachers are expected to attend this convention, and the visitors expected will bring the attendance up to 300 or 400.

The general theme of discussion will be "What the Schools of This District Can Do for Their Environment." The following is the official program:

Friday, March 25, 1910, at Williams and Mary College Chapel, 10:30 A. M.—Morning theme, "What the School Can Do for Local Agricultural Progress." "Agriculture in the School." T. O. Sandy; "Agricultural Clubs in Cumberland and Goochland Counties," Superintendent of Schools, J. H. S. Graves; "How the School Can Make the Boy Useful at Home," R. F. Terrell, Round table on afternoon theme.

Friday evening, 8 o'clock—Address of Welcome; For Williamsburg, Hugh S. Bird; for Williams and Mary College, President Lyon G. Tyler, Address, Professor J. B. Thomas, Supervisor of Rural Schools for Virginia; address, Hon. W. H. Mann, Governor of Virginia.

Saturday at 9 A. M., at Williams and Mary Chapel—Morning theme, "What the Public School Can Do for the Health of the Community." "Personal and Practical Hygiene," Dr. Ennton G. Williams; "Instruction and Direction of Sanitation," Professor J. W. Ritchie; "The Dirty Child Problem, and How to Solve It," A. H. Fitzgerald; "Medical Inspection in the Schools," Miss Rachel Isaacson; "Abnormal Children, and How to Deal With Them," Miss R. B. Schaeffer; general round table on main theme and other school problems, H. E. Bennett, conductor. Business meeting.

Saturday, 2 P. M., at Williams and Mary Chapel—Address, E. M. Anderson, E. H. Russell; address, "Two Ways of Teaching," Professor C. J. Heatwole. Visits to Bruton Parish Church, the Powder Horn and other places of historic interest.

Life Guards. The Life Guards are two regiments of cavalry forming part of the British household troops. They are gallant soldiers, and every loyal British heart is proud of them. Not only the King's household, but yours, ours, everybody's, should have its life guards. The need of them is especially great when the greatest foes of life, disease, and ailments in the very elements, as cold, influenza, cough, the grip, and pneumonia, are in the air, and when the month of March, the best way that we know of to guard against these diseases is to strengthen the system with Hood's Sarsaparilla—the greatest of all life guards. It removes the conditions in which these diseases make their most successful attack, gives vigor and tone to all the vital organs and functions, and imparts a genial warmth to the blood. Remember the weaker the system, the greater the exposure to disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes the system strong.

DEBATE BETWEEN SCHOOLS. Washington and Greenville Institutions to Contend in History.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Washington, N. C., March 12.—Superintendent H. B. Smith, of the Greenville Graded Schools, has been in the city during the past few days in conference with Prof. Newbold, superintendent of the local schools, arranging to hold a joint debate on history between the two respective schools. The debate is to be held in the auditorium of the Washington schools on the night of April 23. The query decided on is: "Resolved, That the United States Should Subsidize Her Merchant Marine in Accordance With the Humphrey Bill." Washington will take the negative and Greenville the affirmative. Much interest is being manifested by the students of both schools, and the occasion promises to be very interesting.

PLEADS INTERESTS OF AVERAGE MAN

Address Before Teachers' Association by Editor

PET FALLACIES EXPLODED

Better Scheme of Rural Education Needed in the South.

One of the addresses that attracted a great deal of favorable comment at the Fourth District Teachers' Association meeting, recently held in Petersburg, was delivered by Editor Clarence H. Poe of the Progressive Farmer. Mr. Poe said in part:

The great principle of democracy to which our American government is dedicated, is not confined to the world of politics, but applies with equal force in the economic and industrial world. We must revise not only our old aristocratic ideas of government, but our old aristocratic ideas of wealth and industry as well. These old fatal misconceptions have shackled us too long, and there is hope for us only in realizing that wealth is, by nature, not aristocratic, but democratic.

The poorer every other man is, the poorer you are. The richer every other man is, the richer you are—not the reverse of this proposition as too many people have long believed.

Burdens to the Community. Every man whose earning power is below par, below normal, is a burden on the community; he drags down the whole level of life and every other man in the community is poorer by reason of his presence, whether he be white man or negro, or what not. Your untrained, inefficient man is not only a poverty breeder for himself, but the contagion of it curses every man in the community; the idleness of leaving him untrained. The law of changeless justice decrees that you must rise or fall, decline or prosper, with your neighbor. You will be richer for his wealth, poorer for his poverty.

spring, have fought passenger rate reduction as a life and death matter when a well trained people would supply the various traffics and the heavy dividends of the other sections.

Your lawyer, doctor, preacher, teacher—each falling in line with an ancient heresy—has paid the penalty in diminished fees, diminished salaries, diminished influences.

Four Facts All Southerners Should Remember.

1. Not only does the prosperity of the South as a whole depend upon the prosperity of the average Southerner, but the well being of every individual is measured by the efficiency of this average man. Inevitably we are poorer for his poverty, richer for his wealth.
2. The great majority of these common people of the South being farmers, Sidney Lanier was right when he declared that "an agricultural change is the one substantial fact upon which any really New South can be predicated."
3. The possibilities of "such an agricultural change" are indicated by the fact that the average value of products per farm for the South Atlantic States is \$500 less per year than for the North Atlantic, and for the South Central \$523 less than for the North Central.
4. This agricultural revolution can be brought about only by a better scheme of rural education—better both in quantity and quality; not only longer terms, but with a curriculum adapted to the needs of country children. This rural education, too, must not stop with the children, but must be carried on among farmers and farmers' wives, and land owners, and tenants, and farm managers—those of those being educated as definitely as the school boy himself by means of "farmers' institutes, and agricultural colleges, and farm papers, and farmers' clubs, and demonstration work."

MANY EDUCATORS WILL BE PRESENT

North Carolina Teachers' Assembly to Meet in Asheville.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Raleigh, N. C., March 12.—A number of teachers and other educational workers of national reputation are being secured by Secretary R. D. W. Connor, of the North Carolina Teachers' Assembly, for the twenty-seventh annual session at Asheville July 14-17, 1910. Among those already assured are Dr. L. D. Harvey, president of Stout Institute, Wisconsin, and former president of the National Educational Association; Miss Jessie Field, Rural School Supervisor of national reputation, who is prominently mentioned at this time for superintendent of public instruction of Iowa; Hon. W. J. Spillman, United States Department of Agriculture, specialist in the problem of bringing rural schools into closer touch with farm life; Hon. O. B. Martin, for a long while superintendent of public instruction for South Carolina, and now associated with Dr. S. A. Knapp, of the United States Department of Agriculture in farm demonstration work.

Quite a number of prominent North Carolina educators have already been assigned to important parts in the program of the Assembly. These include D. H. Hill, of the North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College; Superintendent R. J. Tigue, of the Asheville schools; professor H. H. Williams, University of North Carolina; Dr. J. L. Hobbs, President Guilford College; President R. H. Wright, Eastern Carolina Teacher Training School; Dr. W. S. Rankin, of the State Board of Health; President E. P. Hobgood, of the Oxford Seminary; Miss Annie Meade Nicholas, State Normal College, Greensboro; Superintendent C. L. Coon, Wilson city schools; Principal Jno. Graham, Warrington schools; Superintendent Harry Howell, High Point schools; E. C. Brooks, Trinity College, Superintendent O. W. Mosby, Durham city schools; Superintendent T. R. Foust, Guilford county schools; Superintendent B. B. Dougherty, Watauga public schools.

Those in touch with the preliminary arrangements declare that the Assembly this year will be one of the greatest educational gatherings ever held in the State, and that the teachers of North Carolina, especially in the Western section of the State, are taking the keenest sort of interest in the approaching meeting, and co-operating in a most gratifying manner to make it a success.

Writing editorials in support of the aristocratic instead of the democratic theory of industry, the editor has seen his weekly fail of support, when a properly trained and educated people would have brought him wealth as the head of a prosperous daily.

Fighting public taxation for better schools, and other methods of training or enriching the average man, your manufacturer has struggled along with a small business when a prosperous average man would have given us great industries like those in the North and West.

Still arguing that education and training would spoil the workmen, and that "cheaper labor" is what we need, your banker has complained that the South offers no opportunities for the great thing, forgetting that cheap, unprosperous labor means small, unprosperous banks.

Opposing taxation for better schools, the railroads, hauling cotton in the full and low grade fertilizer in the

Finally Coffee does hurt most people. Why run the risk when

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is harmless and wholesome?

"There's a Reason"



TEACHERS ON HISTORIC GROUND.

The meeting of the Fourth Congressional District teachers, recently held in the city of Petersburg, was a great success. Vice-President J. J. L. L. of the State Teachers' Association, Superintendent R. R. Jones, of Petersburg, and W. R. Smith, principal of the Petersburg High School, deserve especial credit for the success of the meeting. About 200 teachers were in attendance. The Petersburg Teachers' Association did itself proud in entertaining the visiting teachers. There was a delightful reception in the "Silver Room," while the meeting closed with a joyous do-the-same-where-the-entire-group-was-photographed.

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